

TIPPECANOE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-17-CM

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING SUPPORT OF THE  
MIDWEST REGIONAL RAIL INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, the Midwest Regional Rail Initiative ("Initiative") is a proposed 3,000 mile high-speed passenger rail network radiating from Chicago to serve cities in nine Midwestern states, including Lafayette, Indianapolis and other Indiana cities;

WHEREAS, the nine states represented in the Initiative include Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio and Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, the carefully researched Initiative is forecast to carry 9.6 million passengers annually and earn enough revenues to cover operating expenses once fully implemented in 2010;

WHEREAS, the Initiative offers travelers in the Midwestern United States additional mobility through modern high-speed trains, increased trip frequencies, customer-friendly amenities and downtown-to-downtown connections to community centers;

WHEREAS, the Initiative will provide better access to educational institutions, cultural centers, recreational opportunities and government offices;

WHEREAS, the high-speed passenger rail corridor will utilize modern technology allowing safe travel at speeds up to 110 mph and reducing travel times by as much as 30% over Current rail service;

WHEREAS, high-speed passenger rail corridors in Midwestern United States will enhance the quality of life and attract taxable business investments for job creation and economic growth;

WHEREAS, strong economies in the Midwest are placing tremendous demands on highways and airports, some of which are reaching their capacity to move people and goods;

WHEREAS, the high-speed inter-city rail service is executed (sic) to generate \$9.1 billion in new economic activity, reduce air pollution and highway and airport congestion and benefit freight railroads with improved safety conditions and communications.

WHEREAS, the current funding plan for the Initiative seeks an 80% federal partnership and 20% state share.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Tippecanoe County, State of Indiana, lends its full support to the Midwestern efforts to establish and participate in the Initiative;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Tippecanoe County urges our federal and state representatives, the President of the United States and the Governor of the State of Indiana to establish a dedicated national and state funding mechanism for high-speed passenger rail service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners calls upon the nine Midwestern states affiliated with the Initiative to provide leadership, professional expertise and financial support to turn the concept of high-speed inter-city passenger rail service into reality.

ADOPTED AND PASSED by the Board of Commissioners of Tippecanoe County, Indiana, this 2nd day of April, 2001.

VOTE	BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF TIPPECANOE COUNTY
Yes	_____ Ruth Shedd, President
Yes	_____ John Knochel, Vice President
Yes	_____ KD Benson, Member
_____ Robert Plantenga, Auditor of Tippecanoe County	